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Northern Region News

April 4, 1994

A Newsletter For Employees and Retirees

Issue 4

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Supervisor for the Custer National Forest Named



NANCY CURRIDEN

Regional Forester Dave Jolly announced the appointment of Nancy Curriden as the new forest supervisor for the Custer National Forest. Curriden comes to the Custer from the Washington Office Resources Program and Assessment (RPA) staff. She is currently acting

branch chief for the RPA program. Her reporting date to the Custer is May 31.

Curriden began her Federal career in 1976 as an archaeologist with the National Park Service, Archaeological Research Center, Tucson, Arizona. In 1979 she transferred to the Forest Service as the forest archaeologist for the San Bernadino National Forest in California.

In 1986 Curriden was appointed district ranger of the Trabuco Ranger District, Cleveland National Forest in California. During this three-year period, she detailed to the Wayne-Hoosier National Forest in Indiana as acting deputy forest supervisor. In 1989 she transferred to her present position in Washington, D.C. During her Washington Office term she also was detailed to the Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky as acting deputy forest supervisor.

Curriden, who is from New Jersey, is an ardent outdoors enthusiast and enjoys traveling, skiing, rollerblading, and bicycling.

Former R-I Employee Becomes Head of Research Station

James C. Space has been appointed director of the Pacific Southwest Research Station in Albany, California. The station conducts forestry research in California, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands.

Space, who has a Master's degree in forest management from Yale University, was a visiting fellow at the Australian National University in 1980. In 1983, he was a Senior Executive Fellow at Harvard University's JFK School of Government.

He began his career with the Forest Service in Region 1 in 1962 with the Nez Perce

National Forest. He held a number of positions in the Northern Region before transferring to Atlanta in 1971 as a forest inventory specialist. He served in several different capacities within the agency until his appointment in 1987 as the Washington Office director of Forest Pest Management. He has been acting associate deputy chief for State and Private Forestry for the past 8 months.

James Space is the son of Ralph Space, supervisor of the Clearwater National Forest from 1954 until his retirement in 1963. Ralph Space passed away June 16, 1993.

PARSONS CHOSEN AS DIRECTOR OF WILDERNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

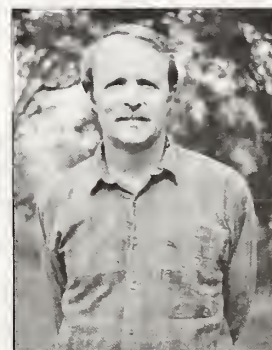
David Parsons has been selected as director of the recently created Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute in Missoula. Parsons is currently a research scientist with the National Biological Survey at the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Field Station in Three Rivers, California. Parsons assumes his new post May 16.

During his 20-plus year career as a research biologist with the National Park Service, Parsons has carried out research on wilderness impacts, fire ecology, giant sequoia forest ecology, and air pollution effects. He has coordinated several interdisciplinary teams of scientists and managers in developing research initiatives on understanding the effects of fire suppression, acidic deposition, and climatic change on the ecosystems of the southern Sierra Nevada. In 1992, he was awarded the National Park Service Western Regional Director's Natural Resources Award as the Research Scientist of the Year.

The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute was formally dedicated in August

1993 and is an interagency research facility. As director, Parsons will lead the institute's efforts to conduct and expand research in the use and management of wilderness, integrate and coordinate research efforts

among government agencies, universities, and other research organizations, develop and implement innovative technology transfer methods and provide technical assistance in national and international wilderness-related issues.



DAVID PARSONS



Meeting of the Minds Needed with Ski Industry

Better Communication and Consistency Urged by Rangers

Resource staff officers and Regional Office specialists from around the Northern Region met at Fairmont Hot Springs from November 30 to December 2, 1993, for a regional coordination meeting. Also present were John Hoagland, recreation management specialist from the Intermountain Region; George Willet, president of the Montana Ski Areas Association; and Tim Prather, chairman of the Montana Board of Tramway Safety.

Many timely issues and topics pertinent to the work of the attendants were discussed. Regional and local issues addressed include permit administration standards, liability insurance requirements, ski trail development and timber removal policies, sign standards and commercial advertising policies, boundary management and back-country skiing access.

Presentation topics included ski area expansion, master development planning, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, tramway safety and monitoring, Nordic ski trails associated with alpine ski areas, summer operations at alpine ski areas, ski host programs and a ski area owner's perspective of Forest Service administration.

Two key points were repeatedly echoed throughout the meeting: the need for consistency and for improving communications between the Forest Service and the ski industry. Whether it's dealing with permit administration, moni-

toring operations, master planning, or meeting the terms of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Forest Service needs to make consistency our trademark. Maintaining consistency reflects a professional business approach to our administration of ski areas. Providing the best service we can and expecting the same in return can go a long way toward improving our working relationships.

Secondly, communication within the Forest Service and with the ski industry is paramount to achieving understanding between us. Master development planning and implementation are becoming more complex. There are bound to be disagreements at times; it will be our resolve to find common ground and understanding with each other that will make a difference.

Improving consistency and communications means a commitment to training. The Northern Region is committed to offering training sessions, encouraging participation in correspondence courses and networking with our counterparts to achieve a higher level of service.

The coordination meeting provided an opportunity to improve consistency and communication in the Northern Region. Thanks go to Homer Bowles, RO recreation management specialist, for putting it together and to Peter Pitcher, owner/operation of Discovery Basin Ski Area, for his hospitality.

*by Jeff Gildehaus, Snow Ranger
Beartooth Ranger District
Custer National Forest*

HAVING FUN IN THE SNOW

Billings, Montana, and Red Lodge Mountain Ski Area located in the Custer National Forest hosted the annual Northern Rocky Mountain Winter Games February 25-27. Over 300 participants from the United States and Canada competed in alpine events held at Red Lodge Mountain Ski area.

The winter games included slalom and giant slalom races for all ages, along with a disabled skier's giant slalom and snow-board half pipe competitions. A new event in this year's winter games was sled-dog racing.

The games, now in their second year, doubled in the number of participants

over last year. The event's success promises the opportunity for the public to enjoy winter recreation at Red Lodge Mountain Ski Area and the Custer National Forest for many years to come.

*by Jeff Gildehaus,
Snow Ranger
Beartooth Ranger District
Custer National Forest*



Participants getting ready for downhill ski competition

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Newsletter Guidelines

The following are guidelines for submitting stories:

- Articles should feature Forest Service employees and retirees involved in Forest Service activities and projects.

- Articles must be concise and timely. All articles are subject to editing, and may not be used if outdated, inappropriate, or if space does not permit.

- Photos can be color or black and white. Glossy finish if possible.

Send articles to G. Weisgerber R01A (Data General) or Gloria Weisgerber, Northern Region Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807. The public affairs officer on your Forest may want to preview articles before they are sent. If so, please follow that process.

The policy of the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or political affiliation. Persons believing they have been discriminated against in any Forest Service related activity should write to: Chief, Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090.

GOING TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



In January, I and another Forest Service retiree, Merv Stevens, spent three weeks in Kazakhstan, one of the former republics of the Soviet Union. We were invited by Winrock International, a private organization funded by the Ford and Rockefeller foundations dedicated to fighting world hunger and poverty, to conduct seminars and make an assessment of forestry in Kazakhstan.

In area, Kazakhstan is about four times the size of Texas, but is similar in climate and vegetation to Montana. Most of Kazakhstan is steppe or short grass prairie and only 3 percent is forested. Concern for the remaining forests has risen precipitously in that the cost of logs has increased over 1,000 percent since the country separated from the Soviet Union in December 1991.

Nationalism was running high while we were there. The country had adopted a



L to R: Don Stevenson and Merv Stevens at a Russian fire station. They are holding "fire beaters."

new constitution, providing for an elected legislative body, recognition of individual rights, and freedom of belief and political association. While the government is committed to free market reforms—land, minerals and other resources remain the exclusive property of the State.

We found the senior forestry officials well versed in the science and practice of forestry. Their systems and organization were surprisingly similar to ours. They had smokejumpers, their own airplanes, about 130 fire lookout towers and forest guard stations. There were professional foresters, engineers, wildlife biologists, and other professionals

Retirees Consult in Exotic Kazakhstan

at all levels in the organization who seemed well trained and very competent.

The senior forestry officials were extremely interested in new technology such as radar tracking of lightning storms, harvesting and manufacturing equipment, satellite tracking of wildlife, and the concept of ecological forestry.

We conducted 14 seminars covering forest inventory and planning, regeneration, harvesting and manufacturing systems, utilization, wildlife, recreation, watershed management, fire management, insect and disease and forestry education curriculums.

The forestry school had about 335 students with three program options: urban forestry, national parks, and general forestry.

Women made up about 20 percent of the students and the work force in the field. Of the 32 faculty members, 20 had Ph.D.'s.

In June, I, along with several others, may go back to Kazakhstan to get a better assessment of field operations. Volunteers with skills in policy and legislation, management planning, utilization, and reforestation are needed. Volunteers donate their time but all living expenses, travel, drivers and interpreters will be provided by Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA). Anyone interested should contact me at (406) 543-8989 in Missoula.

by Don Stevenson, Retiree
Missoula, Montana



At left:
Russian
Orthodox
Church in
Alma-ata,
a city in
Kazakhstan.
The
wooden
structure
was built
c. 1890
without
the use of
nails.

Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance

I would like to introduce more Forest Service retirees to VOCA—Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance. VOCA is a private, non-profit organization that provides voluntary short-term technical assistance at the request of cooperatives, governments, and other private sector agricultural and natural resources enterprises.

Requests for forester and natural resources help from governments, particularly in Eastern Europe, are increasing rapidly. In fact, VOCA recently opened an Environment and Natural Resources recruiting office in Sacramento.

For more information, please contact Christi Livingston, VOCA-Missouri, University of Missouri, Room 230, Gentry Hall, Columbia, MO 65211, telephone (314) 882-2839.

by Jeff Simon, Deputy Chief, International Forestry
Washington Office

Research Projects Hope to Show the Way

In the Stevensville Ranger District

The Intermountain Research Station, the Bitterroot National Forest and the University of Montana have embarked on a cooperative, five-year research project. The object is to determine how research, using ecosystem management concepts, can effectively be incorporated by land managers into the planning process. Researchers and land managers will look at the bigger picture, or broad landscapes, when making land management decisions—as opposed to looking at smaller management areas focusing on timber stands or single species.

Research efforts are proposed for the northern portion of the Bitterroot Range in the Stevensville Ranger District. Initial research will focus on the 40,000-acre Stevensville West Central planning unit.

A major impact to the ecosystem of the scenic Bitterroot Valley and surrounding forest has been from human development. Human needs and activities in the area have eliminated low intensity surface fires which are a natural process in this ecosystem.

To insure that people will be included as a critical component of ecosystems, the Bitterroot Ecosystem Management Research Project is a partnership between scientists, land managers and the public. Public participation at the very beginning will help design, execute, and evaluate all phases of the project.

The research program is being implemented by the Intermountain Research Station. The program's governing committee, called the Bitterroot Interdisciplinary Research Development (BIRD) core team, is led by station scientist Dr. Clint Carlson.

Several subcommittees, some led by station scientists, are developing proposals to the core team: Vegetation Committee—Dr. Steve Arno; Landscape Applications Committee—Dr. Greg Jones; Animals Committee—Dr. Jack Lyon; Human Dimension Committee—Madelyn Kempf; Landscape Ecology—Dr. Robert Pfister.

The research project will address, among others, the following areas:

- the human dimension of EM

- develop, test and integrate decision software with GIS software at a landscape scale of resolution

- demonstrate stand, or site-level vegetation, treatments that can be applied to landscapes over time

- determine, or predict, how certain flora and fauna species respond to landscape-level management

- develop aquatic research models and identify a desired future condition for aquatics/watersheds

Because of the complexity of ecosystem management, the outcome of the project could have important implications in other areas of Region 1 and other regions of the country with habitat similar to that of research sites in the Bitterroot Forest.

*by Madelyn Kempf, Human Dimension
Advisory Team Chair
Bitterroot Ecosystem
Management Research Project*



Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Recently the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) adopted an interim aquatic ecosystem strategy to protect important watersheds until the scheduled revision to the Forests' Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) is completed. A feature of this ecosystem strategy is that it addresses entire communities of resident fish and other aquatic organisms and avoids management by single-species. In addition, having this type of strategy in place provides a focus for planning and gives the Forest flexibility in responding to aquatic resource conservation needs on an ecosystem basis.

The need for this type of plan was based on declines in the bull trout and Westslope cutthroat trout fisheries on National Forest System lands within the Idaho Panhandle. In 1991, the IPNF established a working group that developed action plans for both fish. Both plans identified development of ecosystem conservation strategies based on inventories and research.

Since the completion of these plans, over 600 miles of stream within five aquatic ecosystems have been inventoried. The results of these efforts provided the basis for the development of a pro-active Interim Aquatic Ecosystem Strategy which addresses not only habitat requirements of bull trout and Westslope cutthroat but the entire community of resident fish species.

Key elements of this strategy provide:

1. For the conservation and restoration of aquatic communities (native fishes, riparian vegetation, and other types of plants and animals that use the stream channel);

2. A plan for halting further declines in resident bull trout populations;

3. Operational criteria for protection of aquatic resources without having to eliminate land management activities (timber harvest, recreation, etc.);

4. For the identification and prioritization of watersheds within five defined ecosystems and specific objectives for attaining "good" riparian habitat conditions that results in "good" stream conditions for fish;

5. Assistance in identifying ways of meeting some "desired future condition" in an ecosystem.

The strategy is the first of its kind in the region in putting an ecosystem approach to protecting watersheds. As habitat improves, all species are expected to benefit.

*by David Cross,
Forest Fisheries Program Manager
Idaho Panhandle National Forests*

Deja Vu - All Over Again

A few weeks ago the biologists, ecologists, hydrologists and soils scientists of Region One met in Missoula. As part of the presentations, we heard the current thinking on ecosystem management (EM), forest planning, and PACFISH (a riparian and aquatic ecosystem strategy for anadromous fish). There was even some attempt to grope through the interrelationship between all these things. The question still remains, at least in my mind, as to what all this will mean on the ground.

Most of the effort seems to be going into broad-scale analyses. But the other end of the analysis is equally important, if not more so. Part of the reason the forest plans failed the last time is that the "ground-up" portion of the process never materialized. The land use specified in the Forest Plan and the time frame or scheduling when certain activities will take place on the land were never tied into the "existing condition" in any meaningful fashion. Consequently, considerations imposed by other resources that might alter the land use or scheduling were not adequately expressed and unrealistic outputs were expected from the ground.

I'll predict that about the time the sub-regional assessments get done, some pretty powerful people are going to be interested in what levels of (insert current euphemism for outputs) are going to be coming their way. We'll have two choices: 1) Tell them to wait until we aggregate upward the results of all the landscape assessments in the region, or 2) give them a number based on the sub-regional assessment. I suspect we'll give them the number.

The tool that we didn't have in the last round of planning, and that I haven't seen show up in EM yet, is a land unit that both depicts existing condition, and can also accommodate a land use and scheduling of activities that can be monitored to determine the effects of that land use. Ecological Land Units or Management Areas will not

serve this role - but watersheds will. The watershed is the only landscape unit that will integrate both existing condition and effects in a manner that is scientifically correct, is applicable at the same scale across a landscape, is responsive to law, and is easily understood by the public.

I think the reluctance to deal with existing watershed condition has led us into an EM analysis based in a large part on vegetation. But vegetation is only a product of a functioning physical system, just as wildlife is only a product of a functioning vegetative system. And it is the physical system that drives the entire process. But the (so far) EM emphasis on vegetation leads to the all too easy corollary that if we fix vegetation we've successfully practiced EM. Not so. The aquatic portion of the ecosystem is at least as out of whack as the vegetative one. And we can't fix the vegetation portion at a rate that will further degrade the aquatic portion. The problem, like ecosystems, is not one-dimensional.

The watersheds of the national forests, and the agency itself, cannot afford to go hemorrhaging through another round of forest planning. The sins of the fathers are falling on the chickens coming home to roost. EM is an excellent concept for managing public landscapes. Forest planning is an excellent vehicle for implementation of EM. The Forest Service has intelligent people that can make them both work. But in order for all those things to be effective, our actions must keep pace with our rhetoric. We must stop looking for "opportunities" and start defining constraints. Only by continually focusing on our limits will we be able to function within them.

*by Pete Bengueyfield, Hydrologist
Beaverhead National Forest*

R-I Rangers Hold Conference

Rangers all across Region One met for three days February 15-17 at Fairmont Hot Springs, Montana. Also present at the conference were Regional Forester Dave Jolly, Deputy Regional Forester Chris Risbrudt, regional director, forest supervisors and job corps center directors.

During the conference, the rangers were introduced to the "Innovator," a new piece of technology in the region which can be used to easily rank issues, thoughts, or priorities of a group. Rangers rated the importance of issues that had been previously identified by the Regional Leadership Team (RLT). Expecting significant differences between how the RLT and the rangers ranked the issues, the Innovator (operated by RO Management Systems Director Jim Reid and staff) quickly demonstrated that the two groups are not far apart.

The five issues that the group feel are most important and need regional leadership on include:

1. Changing Forest Plans
2. TES/ESA/Sensitive Species
3. Ecosystem Assessment
4. Ecosystem Management
5. Organization/Downsizing and Budget Allocation

Forest Service Associate Chief Dave Unger joined the meeting for a morning video teleconference. He answered questions asked "live" by telephone from over 15 district rangers. Other presentations included perspectives on the future role of the district ranger from recently retired Ralph Meyer, former district ranger of the Hebgen Lake Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest.

*L to R - Gene Gibson,
Bozeman District Ranger,
Gallatin National Forest;
Larry Timchak,
Judith District Ranger,
Lewis & Clark National Forest;
Chuck Wassinger,
Director, RO Lands & Minerals;
Margie Ewing,
Butte District Ranger,
Deerlodge National Forest*



The new executive director of the Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (AFSEEE), Andy Stahl, addressed the audience. He explained AFSEEE's goals which include improving relations with the Forest Service. Andy challenged Forest Service employees to scrutinize AFSEEE's publications such as Inner Voice and to let AFSEEE know when the publications are off base.

Jack Blackwell, Forest Service reinvention team member, spoke and took suggestions about reinvention back to the team. Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus addressed the group regarding the future role of the Forest Service.

Several awards were presented at the meeting, some of which were:

The Northern Region's Outstanding Trail Program of 1993 Award to the **Moose Creek Ranger District** for accomplishments in trail maintenance, signing and reconstruction;

For leadership in the Arthur Carhart Dedication to **Liz Close**, Regional Office wilderness specialist;

For leadership in pursuing public access to National Forest System lands to **Larry Timchak**, Judith District Ranger;

For leadership in the lands program on the Gallatin Land Exchanges to **Gene Gibson**, Bozeman District Ranger;

For leadership in assuring the expansion of the Beal Mountain Mine in an environmentally sound manner to **Margie Ewing**, Butte District Ranger;

For sustained line officer leadership in grayling recovery and sensitive plant management and for excellence in supporting a high quality district fish, wildlife and TES program to **Dennis Havig**, Wisdom District Ranger;

For being innovative and aggressive in dealing with watershed rehabilitation to benefit fisheries and wildlife to **Steve Williams**, Wallace District Ranger.

*by Terry Knupp,
Kings Hill District Ranger
Lewis & Clark National Forest*



*L to R - Governor Cecil Andrus,
State of Idaho;
David F. Jolly, Regional Forester*

AWARDS

Geneticist George Howe

George Howe, regional geneticist for the RO Timber, Cooperative Forestry, and Pest Management unit, recently received an award from the Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative. The cooperative is an association of all major timber landowners—Federal, State, private industry, and three universities—in the inland northwest.

A 26-year veteran of the Forest Service, George was honored for his "long-standing commitment to co-operative genetics and tree improvement in the Inland Northwest." He has served as



George Howe

the vice chairman of the cooperative since 1971 but resigned from the organization March 11 to devote more of his time to genetic considerations outside of tree improvement as part of the region's ecosystem management efforts.

OGC'S Christine Everett

Christine Reck Everett of the Missoula Branch Office of the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) was recently named as the recipient of the Sally Thane Christensen Award. The award was established in memory of Ms. Christensen, former Missoula OGC attorney who died of ovarian cancer in January 1992. The national award is presented annually by the General Counsel to an attorney within OGC who best exemplifies the ideals and work ethic demonstrated by Sally.

The award presented to Chris is "in recognition of significant achievement and substantial dedication to the mission of the Mountain Region of the Office of General Counsel in the provision of legal counsel, advice, training and representation to Region 1, Forest Service, in natural resource and environmental matters during FY 1993." A permanent plaque engraved with each recipient's name is on display in the General Counsel's office in Washington, D.C.

*by Mark Lodine,
Assistant Regional Attorney
OGC, Missoula Field Office*

Five On Lolo

The Lolo National Forest Management Team thanked **Merlin Lemmer**, from the Ninemile Ranger District; **Carole Johnson, Ralph Parkins, Ray Tooker**, and **Dan Capps** from the Superior Ranger District for their diligence in obtaining the bacteriological water samples for 1993. Through their efforts, Ninemile and the Superior Ranger Districts earned a perfect record of compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, thus insuring safe water supplies for their fellow employees and forest visitors.

*by Kevin A. Glanz, Civil Engineer Technician
Lolo National Forest*

Bitterroot National Forest

The **Bitterroot National Forest** is the recipient of the 1993 National Wilderness Award, the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Program Award. The prestigious award, co-sponsored by The Wilderness Society, America Outdoors, and Wilderness Watch, honors Forest Service and private sector organizations for excellence in overall wilderness management, leadership in wilderness education, and skill in use of primitive tools and techniques in completing wilderness backcountry projects.

*by Dixie Dies, Staff Officer,
Public Affairs
Bitterroot National Forest*

Understanding the Historic Landscape



...a workshop in the identification and evaluation of rural historic resources and landscape

Should fences be documented? corrals? bunkhouses? roads? Perhaps, if they're part of an historic landscape found to be important. If your job involves evaluating the significance of rural buildings and landscapes, training will be offered April 28-30 that will provide you with the kind of information you need to assess and document these resources.

Nationally known speakers include Hugh Miller, former chief historical architect for the National Park Service and presently Virginia state historic preservation officer; and Linda McClelland, co-author of the NPS manual "Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes."

One day of the workshop will involve a trip to a rural agricultural area near Missoula for a hands-on, "how to" documentation project.

Sponsors include Historical Research Associates, Inc., Montana State Historic Preservation Office, University of Montana Center for the Rocky Mountain West, and the National Park Service. For more information, contact Janene Caywood, (406) 721-1958 in Missoula.

PRACTICING FOR ACCIDENTS????

The purpose of the Region 1 Field First Aid Station is to provide basic life support for injuries and medical care for minor medical problems of personnel on a fire.

There are three positions at the station: attendants, assistants and specialists. All positions require a State emergency medical technician (EMT) certification as a minimum level of training, but this training is independent of any State certification. Dr. Warren Guffin serves as the medical advisor and Dr. William Docktor as the pharmacist advisor for the R-1 station personnel.

Almost 50 people attended this annual training at the Aerial Fire Depot in Missoula in February. The intensive training topics included infectious disease, back injuries, blisters, ethics, protocols for medications, eye injuries plus many more fireline-type injury and medical problems.

by Mary Lunsford, Information Assistant
Custer National Forest



The "fireline patient" has been immobilized and stabilized in a SKED and is ready to be carried from the fireline to further medical care.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

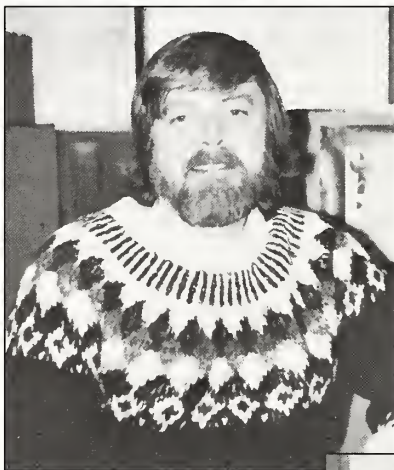
Archaeologist **Steve Baldwin** was hired to fill the position in the Nez Perce National Forest vacated by Donna Turnipseed, who worked out of the Salmon River Ranger District. Steve is stationed at the Supervisor's Office in Grangeville. He transferred from the Malheur National Forest in Oregon where he worked as an archeologist for the Bear Valley and Long Creek Districts.

Previous to his career with the Forest Service, Steve served 21 years in the U.S. Air Force. Before retiring in 1988, he served as a Russian linguist. He is currently pursuing a graduate degree in archaeology at Washington State University and holds a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Alaska.

Steve's outside interests include reading, hiking, cross-country skiing, and playing a guitar.

The first female criminal investigator student trainee in Region 1 is currently working on the Lewis and Clark National Forest in Great Falls, Montana. **Julie Blessum** is a Great Falls native and has worked seasonally for the Forest Service since 1989. She was offered an excepted-conditional appointment with an effective date of February 20, 1994.

Julie has two undergraduate degrees in criminal justice and is currently pursu-



Steve Baldwin

ing a masters in human services with an emphasis in criminal justice administration.

Julie is an accomplished pistol shooter. Her first experience shooting the Forest Service's practical pistol course occurred February 24, in Missoula, where she shot a 287 out of a possible 300 points. This is two points above the requirement for the rating of "expert."

Julie has many interests, including physical conditioning, hiking, skiing, fishing and photography.

Sydney White is the new hydrologic technician at the Nez Perce National Forest Supervisor's Office. She had a wide variety of jobs—dispatcher for a county sheriff, gas station attendant, cook, bartender, and timber stand examiner.

In 1988, White entered into a cooperative student program between the University of Idaho and the Lewis and Clark National Forest. She graduated from college in 1990

with a computer science degree. Her career goals are to become a great hydrologic technician, perhaps starting her own consulting business someday. She loves to downhill ski, mountain bike, swim, horseback ride, and go to parties.



Sydney White

Retirement News

Darrell McKenzie, engineering technician for the Nez Perce National Forest, retired March 5 after 19 years with the Forest Service. He began work for the agency in 1961 at the Selway Ranger District, Nez Perce National Forest. In 1966, he was drafted in the U.S. Army and served for 10 years.

Before returning to the Nez Perce National Forest in 1979, Darrell worked for the Bureau of Mines and later started a general contracting business.

After 25 years of working with wood--a hobby of building cradles, crafts, furniture and cabinets--Darrell and his wife June plan to establish their businesses "The WoodWorks" and "McKenzie's Rocking Horse Ranch." They will continue to live in Harpster, Idaho.

Bob Lehmann, contract specialist in the Regional Office, retired March 9 after 29 years of Federal service. He began his career with the Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca, Nevada, in 1961, followed by summers at the Challis National Forest as an engineering technician; trainee position on the Flathead and then assignments on the Bitterroot and Lolo.

Bob and his wife Lu will continue to make their home in Missoula.

Lorene Williams, personnel assistant in the Regional Office, retired April 1 after 26 years with the Forest Service. She began her career in 1964 at the RO as a key punch operator. Other assignments: the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center; district clerk at Belt Creek Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest; Idaho Panhandle National Forests; Young Adult Conservation Corps at the Shoshone Work Center; and the Fernan Ranger District. She returned to the RO in 1984.

Lorene plans to make her retirement home in Darby, Montana.

Other Retirements

Dorothy May, procurement clerk, Lewis & Clark NF
Ralph Stewart, supervisory forester, Livingston RD, Gallatin NF

Retirees Luncheon

The spring retirees luncheon will be held Wednesday, May 18 at Templins Resort in Post Falls, Idaho. Social hour begins at 11:30 and lunch will be served at 12:30. The entree is a London broil at a cost of \$11.00.

The retirees luncheon is an informal social gathering for the purpose of renewing old acquaintances and making new friends. It is open to any Forest Service retiree willing to drive to Post Falls and join the fun.

Templins needs advance notice, so please RSVP to John or Darlene Bushfield at (208) 765-4918 or Bob Damon at (509) 467-0627.



Darrell McKenzie

In Memoriam

Merle A. Gee, 82, died on March 13 at his home in Missoula, Montana. He was chief of Wildlife Management for the Forest Service's Northern Region from 1958 to 1968, when he retired after serving 35 years with the Forest Service. Prior assignments included aquatic biologist, district ranger on the Kaibab and Carson National Forests, assistant chief of Wildlife Management in Region 3, assistant chief of wildlife management in the Washington Office, and on the Fishlake National Forest Supervisor's staff in Region 4.

Norman "Herb" Larsen, 87, died on January 30 in Salem, Oregon. He began his career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, transferring to the Forest Service in June 1935, Flathead National Forest, which included a promotion on January 13, 1957, as an administrative officer. He later transferred to the Regional Office, Engineering and Administration units. He retired in October 1969.

Earl D. Sandvig, 95, died on February 10 at his home in Portland, Oregon. From 1924 to 1944, he served on the Helena National Forest; assistant forest supervisor, Custer National Forest; supervisor, Beaverhead National Forest; and in the Regional Office as assistant regional forester, Range Management Division. He transferred to Denver, Colorado, and finished his career in Portland, Oregon.

Sandvig retired from the Forest Service in 1959 with 36 years of service. After retirement he served as deputy territorial forester in Hawaii, consultant for Arizona Public Service, and as a worldwide tour escort.

Norman E. Syverson, 85, died on March 8 at the St. Joseph Convalescent Center, Polson, Montana. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Sea-Bees Division. In 1945, he joined the Federal Bureau of Reclamation of Montana as a surveyor, and in 1946 began working for the Forest Service, Engineering Division, with subsequent positions on the Flathead, Kaniksu, and Sequoia National Forests. He retired in 1976.

Correction: Norman Fifield, name misspelled as Fitfield in Northern Region News, March issue.

Personnel Update

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

CHRISTENSEN, SHERRY, SO, spot award
 ESQUIBEL, STEVE, SO, spot award
 KRUZEN, DARRELL, Wisdom RD, spot award
 RAKICH, LISA, SO, spot award
 STEVENSON, TERESA, Wisdom RD, spot award

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

OWENS, REGINA, natural resource recreation manager, Sula RD, temporary promotion
 THOMPSON, BROOK, supervisory forestry technician (FMO), Stevensville RD, temporary promotion, forestry technician (fire), AFD

NEW EMPLOYEES

HAMMEL, BONNIE, registered nurse, Trapper Creek CCC, career conditional appointment

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

EMCH, CHERYL, budget & accounting officer, cash award, SO
 LEWIS, TIM, lead forestry technician, cash award, Pierce RD
 TRAMMEL, JOHN, engineering equipment operator, cash award, Pierce RD
 WOODS, DAVID, forestry aid, cash award, Pierce RD

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

MANNING, JONI, student trainee (wildlife biology) Palouse RD, conversion to career appointment, wildlife biologist trainee, SO

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BELL, PAMELA J., purchasing agent, SO, promotion
 SLACKS, WILLIAM, forester, Eldorado NF, promotion, NEPA coordinator, McKenzie RD
 VOGT, CASILDA A., personnel assistant, SO, promotion

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

KENT, GREEN B., civil engineer, Fremont NF, reassignment, SO
 SPENCER, EILEEN, archaeologist, Deschutes NF, reassignment, Ashland RD

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BALDWIN, LARRY, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 BRAGONJE, RENAE, rangeland management spec, Butte RD, reassignment
 CALLAGHAN, THOMAS, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 DAVIS, SAMUEL, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 MORENI, FRANK, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 MUNSON, PHYLLIS, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 REGAN, LOREN, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire
 SEGOVIA, DAN, forester, Jefferson RD, reassignment
 TARKALSON, RAY, social services aid, Anaconda CCC, DEMO hire

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

LONG, BARBARA, personnel assistant, SO, Quality Step Increase (QSI)
 MILLER, DOREEN, personnel assistant, SO, QSI
 NYBERG, HARVEY, BPA coordinator, SO, Regional Forester Award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

ALLISON, RITA, resource clerk, Glacier View RD, reassignment, forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD
 CROW, MARJORIE, resource accounting technician, Swan Lake RD, reassignment, resource assistant, SO

HICKLE, ROD, forestry technician, Glacier View RD, voluntary demotion, biological science technician, Hungry Horse RD
 HILLARD, LINDA, resource accounting technician, Tally Lake RD, reassignment, resource assistant, SO
 KENNEDY, DENNIS, supervisory forester, Glacier View RD, reassignment, forester, SO
 KUROPAT, BETTY, forester, Glacier View RD, reassignment, wildlife biologist
 RUSSELL, BRAD, civil engineering technician, Swan Lake RD, reassignment, surveying technician, SO
 SMOLT-REES, KIM, forester, Swan Lake RD, reassignment, Tally Lake RD
 VIRDELL, PAM, resource clerk, Hungry Horse RD, reassignment, business management assistant
 WOLL, PETE, civil engineering technician, Spotted Bear RD, reassignment, forestry technician, SO
 ZIKA, LEAH, resource clerk, Tally Lake RD, reassignment, purchasing agent

RESIGNATIONS

MINTA, KATHY, editorial assistant, Tally Lake RD

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

CASSANI, STEVE, forestry technician, Bozeman RD, cash award
 CLARK, STEVE, forester, Bozeman RD, cash award
 HALSTROM, NANCY, resource assistant, Bozeman RD, cash award
 NEFF-SHEA, JULIE, forester, Bozeman RD, cash award

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

MCLAUGHLIN, DOREEN, accounting technician, Lake Tahoe to SO, promotion
 MILBURN, DEBBIE, purchasing agent, SO, promotion
 MOOTHART, LAVERNA, purchasing agent, SO, promotion

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

PANEK, GEORGE, forester, Custer NF, reassignment, Lincoln RD
 PAULSON, BARRY, wildlife biologist, SO, reassignment
 PUSTIS, NANCY, rangeland management specialist, Helena RD, reassignment
 ZEPEDA, GILBERT, district ranger, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, reassignment, Lincoln RD

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

NEW EMPLOYEES

BOGGS, PATRICIA, SCSEP, accepted appointment, St. Maries RD
 WADSWORTH, LYLE, SCSEP, accepted appointment, St. Maries RD

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BROWN, DAVID, Fernan RD, supervisory forester, reassignment, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
 MOUSSEAU, MARK, Coeur d'Alene Nursery, supervisory forester, reassignment, botanist, SO

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BOJONELL, HILAIRE, student trainee hydrology, SO, career conditional, promotion
 CORYELL, LARRY, supervisory forester, Three Rivers RD, special act award
 DEXTER-HOMMEL, CONNIE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, special act award
 FANSLER, WILLIAM, forest recreation officer, SO, performance award
 KIBLER, JAMES, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, special act award
 PRIEVE, STEVEN, supervisory information resource manager, Three Rivers RD, Quality Step Increase (QSI)
 THOMPSON, BOB, forester administrator, Rexford RD, temporary promotion

Personnel Update

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

OTTENHEIMER, JANE, promotion, purchasing agent, SO
SECRET, JESS, promotion, forestry technician, Kings Hill RD
ZADRA, MARIANNE, promotion, personnel assistant, SO

RESIGNATIONS

BRUNO, KENNETH, lead forestry technician, Judith RD

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ECK, JOYCE, resource clerk, SO, special act award
FOX, BILL, criminal investigator, SO, 20 year service award
JOHNSON, TERI, cartographic aid, SO, special act award from WO
MCLEOD, MILO, archeologist, SO, 20 year service award
PETERSON, KAREN, office automation clerk, promotion, business management clerk, Seeley Lake RD
SCHLADER, RONALD, civil engineering technician, West Zone Engineering, special act award
STADLER, DONALD, forester, Superior RD, 20 year service award
STOEFLER, LISA, supervisory forester, Ninemile RD, 10-year service award
THOMPSON, GENE, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

ALLEY, JANENE, supervisory budget & accounting analyst, SO, (QSI)
ENGSTLI, GAYLE, personnel clerk, SO, promotion
HARRISON, KATHLEEN, personnel clerk, Red River RD, career conditional appt
HAYS, GARY, forestry technician, Selway RD, promotion
HESELBARTH, FORREST, forestry technician, Moose Creek RD, promotion
MCGEE, MICHAEL, supervisory forester, Salmon River RD, cash award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BALDWIN, STEPHAN, archaeologist, Malheur NF, reassignment, SO

RESIGNATION

BECK, BARBARA, district ranger, Clearwater RD

REGIONAL OFFICE

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ACHESON, ANN, ecologist, RAWE, promotion
ANTONICH, PATRICIA, program assistant, WRHP, spot award
CLAGUE, JANET, office automation clerk, WRHP, spot award
CRAMER, WILLIAM, materials engineering technician, ENG, cash award
COTE, THEODORE, visual information specialist, MTDC, cash award
GEORGE, JAN, contract specialist, cash award
HARRIS, WILLIAM, carpenter, ENG, promotion
HATHAWAY, JAMES, forester, L&M, spot award (from WRHP)
JACKSON, GEORGE, equipment specialist, MTDC, cash award
LESTER, CAROL, personnel clerk, PM, spot award
MAIER, NEAL, mechanical engineering technician, MTDC, cash award
MCCORKLE, MURIEL V., claims specialist, ADM, promotion
NOONEY, PATRICK, computer programming analyst, A&FM, Quality Step Increase (QSI)
PUTNAM Jr, STUART, equipment specialist, MTDC, cash award
RUSSELL, CAROL, computer specialist, ENG, cash award
SANDVICK, LOIS, secretary, ENG, quality step increase (QSI)
ROTTER, NANCY, office auto clerk, WRHP, spot award
UBER-LESLIE, ALINE, office auto clerk, WRHP, spot award
WEISGERBER, BERNARD, supervisory exhibits specialist, ENG, promotion
YOUNG, BEVERLY, environmental engineer, ENG, (QSI)

SHEYENNE RD SEASONAL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Susan Pfaff, a seasonal employee with the Sheyenne Ranger District, was awarded a \$500 scholarship through the Interior West Fire Council (IWFC) during its annual conference in Bismarck last fall.

Susan worked for the district during the summers of 1992 and 1993 during her sophomore and junior years at the University of North Dakota. She was involved in preburn and postburn inventory on the Sheyenne National Grasslands including inventorying sensitive species enhancements on burned pastures. She also assisted the district with many other duties.

Now a senior at the University of North Dakota, Susan graduates in May with a B.S. degree in animal and range science. She says she enjoys working in the natural resource area and attributes her enjoyment to her farming background.

IWFC scholarships are granted based on a combination of grades, financial need, work experience, career goals and other criteria. Other recipients of scholarships were: John Ortmann, Lincoln, NE—\$400; Daniel Davis, Belcourt, ND—\$200; and Judyann Goulet, Brookings, SD—\$400. Judyann also was a previous Forest Service seasonal employee in South Dakota.

*by Arlis Waltos, Information Assistant
Custer National Forest*

Forest Taxation Conference a Success

On January 26, the Biennial Forest Taxation Conference was held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. It was sponsored and arranged by the Idaho Department of Lands and R-I Timber, Cooperative Forestry, and Pest Management staff. The purpose of the conference was to provide training and information to professionals who advise non-industrial private forest land owners concerning Federal taxation of forestry activities.

Forest Service speakers at the conference included Bill Siegel, Forest Service volunteer and former project leader of Law, Tax, & Economic Research, and John Greene, principal economist, both from the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans; Karen Liu, taxation and finance specialist, Cooperative Forestry Staff, S&PF, WO; Larry Bishop, forest management and taxation specialist, Cooperative Forestry Staff, S&PF, Southern Region, Atlanta; and Lloyd Casey, rural forest resources group leader, Forest Resources Management staff, Northeastern Area/S&PF, Radnor, Pennsylvania.

Of the 80 persons who participated in the conference, about 25 percent were CPA's, 25 percent were consultants, and the remainder were a combination of State service foresters, corporate foresters, and others. Participants came from Idaho, Washington, and Montana. The next conference will be held in 1996.

*by Glenn Roloff, Cooperative Forest Management Specialist
Timber, Cooperative Forestry, & Pest Management
Regional Office*

WILDERNESS PHOTO CONTEST

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act, Region 1 is sponsoring a wilderness photo contest. It is open to all Region 1 employees, retirees and volunteers. Judging is by an outside panel.

Original color slides are preferred, but prints will be accepted with original negatives. You may send in as many entries as you like. Put your name and address on all materials you want returned.

All photos/slides must be taken in Region 1 wilderness areas. Entries must give location, date, photographer and category. Photographs need not be taken this calendar year.

First place selections will be made in each category and included in a Regional Office photo display. First place winners in each category will also be awarded a framed enlargement of their picture.

Send entries by **August 5, 1994**, to Wilderness Photo Contest, WRHP, USDA Forest Service, 200 East Broadway, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807.

CATEGORIES

Wilderness Workers - Visitor contacts, site restoration, resource monitoring, trail management, etc. — the work of wilderness goes on!

Natural Processes - Examples and effects of the forces that shape and control wilderness landscapes.

Wilderness Visitors - People enjoying the recreational, spiritual, scenic and other uses of wilderness.

Non-Recreational Values - Everyone knows of wilderness' value for primitive recreation; for what other values is wilderness designated? (Hint: check the Wilderness Act!)

The Enduring Resource - Everything from mountain vistas to individual flowers; YOUR views of wilderness.

*by Liz Close, Wilderness Specialist
Regional Office*

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